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A Survey About The Function Of Technical And Vocational Education: An Empirical Study In Bushehr City

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to identify the internal and external function of technical and vocational education during the current 10 past years in Bushehr City. Statistical population consists of 430 alumni graduated from technical and vocational schools in Bushehr city among which data was collected from 110 of them. A researcher-structured questionnaire was applied to measure the data. Descriptive and inferential statistics were also used to analyse the collected data. Findings showed that technical and vocational educations could not be resulted in achievement of alumni to find a good job and make them satisfy with their employment.

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Keywords: Technical and vocational education, internal and external function, education system of Bushehr city;

1. Introduction

Among the economic, social, political, cultural, and educational systems in any country, undoubtedly the economic and educational systems have played the most significant role and they can change and develop any country by which that country can achieve sustainable development. Playing suitable roles in developing country can be done through different ways. Technical and vocational educations are one of those ways by which a skillfully trained and graduated person becomes ready to commit and enter any related business. To help the efficiency and empowerment of technical and vocational educations has various dimensions among which internal and external function can be pointed out. Internal function of educational systems is related to the relationship between its input

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and output (Psacharopoulos, 1991). Most of researches have shown the inability of internal and external function of Iran's technical and vocational system whose reasons could be traced through some factors including non-conformity between technical and vocational courses with the business needs, unwillingness towards the job, inappropriate job with the curricular course, high percent of unemployed persons in society (Shokrkon, 2009; Ekrami, 2001; Tuma, 2006). This paper is to survey the internal and external function of technical and vocational educations during 10 past years in Bushehr city to improve and promote them.

2. Review of Literature

Sharon (2009) stated that the existing technical and vocational courses are not appropriate with the need of different parts of Iran and alumni have to find out different jobs; furthermore, nonconformity of course and job, insufficient earning, and unwillingness towards the job have affected mostly on alumni's job dissatisfaction and there would be a different methods for alumni's submission.

Ekrami (2001) surveyed external function of technical and vocational schools in Golestan Province and stressed there would be no suitable external function among them. He found out the unwillingness towards job, finding no appropriate job based on the related course, and increasing number of unemployed persons and the low rate of job satisfaction and satisfaction about technical and vocational courses. During his survey in Sri Lanka, Tuma (2006) pointed out that 92% of alumni could not find out appropriate job after even 10 years and about 68% of 20-24 aged persons were unemployed and the nonconformity of educations and the need of business in that country had a deteriorated condition. During his long-term survey of technical and vocational educations, Tank (1992) concluded that participation in technical and vocational educations could have significant and positive effects on employment months, hour-wage rate, and annual earnings; however, some courses could not affect employment months but significantly could affect individuals' hour-wage-rate, hour earning, and annual earnings (quoted by Fathabadi, 1992).

2.1. Research questions

- How is the internal function of technical and vocational educations in Bushehr city?
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2.1.1. Methodology

This is a descriptive study and is going to identify internal and external function of technical and vocational educations. Statistical population consisted of 430 alumni graduated from technical and vocational schools in Bushehr city through the current 10 past years among which data was collected from 110 of them. A researcher-structured questionnaire with 22 questions was applied to measure the data and finally 100 usable questionnaires were returned. Descriptive and inferential statistics were also used to analyze the collected data according to Likert scale with reliability coefficient about 0.87 measured by Chronbach's Alpha.

2.1.1.1. Analyses of findings

To sum and analyze the findings, descriptive and inferential statistics were used such as frequency, average, Standard Deviation, t-test.

3. Tables

3.1. How is the internal function of technical and vocational educations in Bushehr city?

Table1. Internal Function of technical and vocational educations (question no.1)

Year		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Curricular	Grade 2	45	42	41	27	27	29	29	29	29	27
Participation	Grade 3	31	35	41	60	28	30	25	29	24	26
Productivity											
Rate	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Annual											
Growth Index	-	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2	1.8	-	-

Internal function consists of Curricular Participation (CP), Productivity Rate (PR), and Annual Growth Index (AGI) which have been respectively calculated based on the following formulas:

$CP=(G^t)= E_s^g \div P^t \times 100$ where E represents registration, P represents age group population, t represents curricular year, and s represents curricular course.

$PR=(P_e^t) = C^t \div P_c^t$ where C represents active classes, P represents existing classes, and t represents specific curricular year.

$AGI=(G)=N_t + N(t - 1) \div N(t + 1)$ where G represents annual growth index, N represents number of students, and t represents specific curricular year.

3.2. How is the external function of technical and vocational educations in Bushehr city?

Table2. External Function of technical and vocational educations (question no.2)

Variables	Average	SD	t	Sig.
Employment	2.30	0.74	4.05	0.77
Social Dimension	2.45	0.55	5.96	0.84
Individual Dimension	2.38	0.53	7.79	0.9

4.Figures

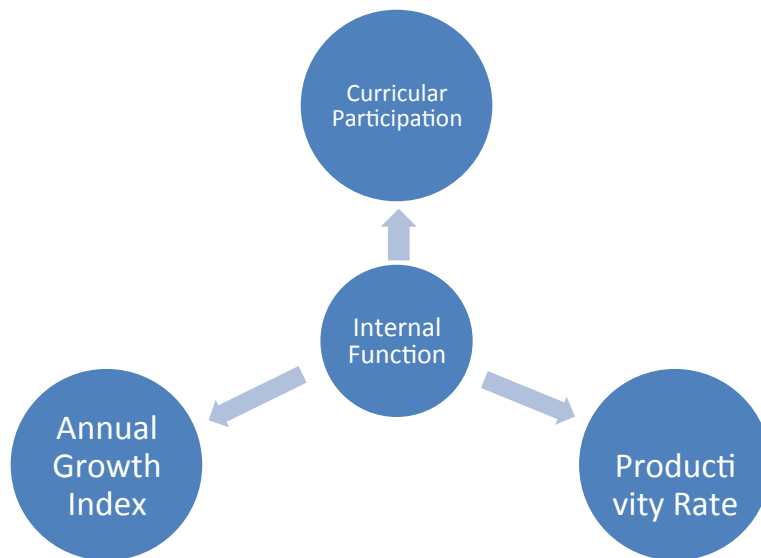


Figure 1.Internal Function of the existing research (question No.1)

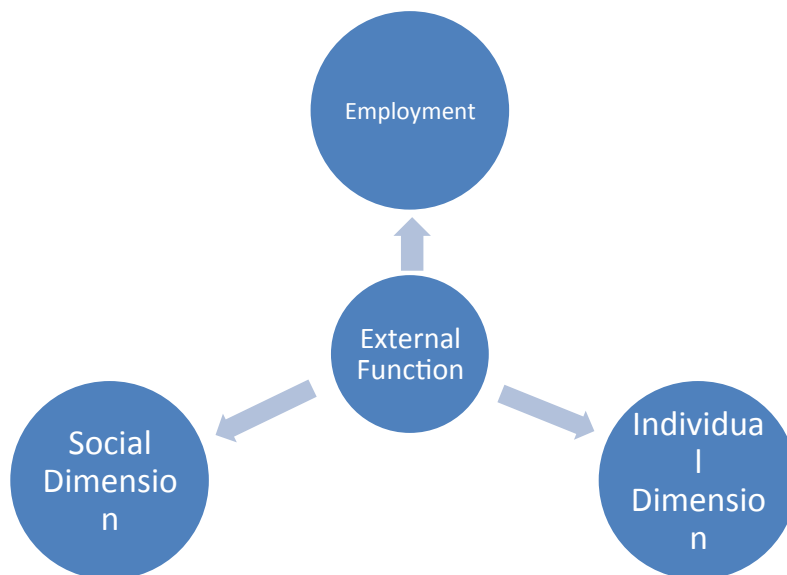


Figure 2.External Function of the existing research (question No.2)

5. Conclusion

Based on findings, internal function of technical and vocational education system in Bushehr city shows that the lack of government investment in technical and vocational sections including equipment of workshops, laboratories for technical education has brought out a steady growth and gradually has made it decrease and therefore, it has affected external function and has brought out social and individual inability and consequently it caused inability in technical and vocational sections to find appropriate jobs and get alumni ready for their working life.

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